

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-15, 17-20, 22, 24, 25, 27-29, 31-34, and 36-38 are pending. Claims 1 and 13-15 have been amended and claims 2, 16, 21, 23, 26, 30, and 35 have been canceled. It is respectfully submitted that none of the amendments presented in this paper raise new issues, as all of these amendments are based on (a) features recited in dependent claims which were previously considered by the Examiner and (b) an agreement reached during an interview with Applicant's representative on August 22, 2005.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

During the Interview on August 22, 2005, the Examiner and his supervisor indicated that the application would be considered allowable if claim 1 and the other independent claims were amended to recite the subject matter of claim 2, pending the outcome of an additional search. On September 1, 2005, the Examiner contacted Applicant's representative by telephone to confirm that the additional search produced no new references and that therefore the application may be placed into condition for allowance if the aforementioned amendments were made. This paper has been filed to formally make these amendments for independent claims 1 and 13-15. It is respectfully

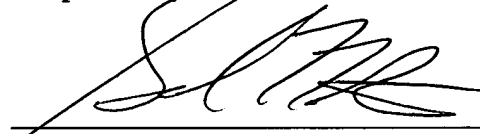
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submitted that independent claim 7 already recites the features of claim 2 and therefore no additional amendment to this claim is necessary.

With the filing of these amendments, it is submitted that all the outstanding rejections of record have been overcome. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all these rejections and furtherance of the application to allowance is therefore respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR '1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 16-0607 and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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